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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4959th meeting of the Security Council, held on 30 April 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Côte d'Ivoire", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its grave concern at the events which occurred in Côte d'Ivoire at the end of March and at the current impasse in the peace process defined in the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement,

"The Security Council underscores the importance of investigating all alleged violations of human rights committed in Côte d'Ivoire so that those responsible do not remain unpunished,

"The Security Council reaffirms its strong commitment to the territorial integrity and unity of Côte d'Ivoire,

"The Security Council recalls that it endorsed the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement which remains the only possible solution to the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire,

"The Security Council further recalls that all Ivorian political forces have committed themselves to implement fully and with no conditions the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement. The Security Council decided, on the basis of this commitment, to deploy the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire to support the process of peaceful settlement of the crisis, which is to culminate in 2005 with the organization of free, fair and transparent elections,

"The Security Council emphasizes the individual responsibility of each of the Ivorian actors in the settlement of the crisis,

"The Security Council expresses its readiness to consider further steps to encourage full implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement and to promote the process of national reconciliation in Côte d'Ivoire, including actions that might be taken, if necessary, against individuals whose activities are an obstacle to the full implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement."

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